

Maryland Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office (MACRO)

Maryland Business ADR Pledge Campaign

The Maryland Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office (MACRO) is a 40-member multi-disciplinary group created and chaired by the Honorable Robert M. Bell, Chief Judge of Maryland's highest court. MACRO is working to advance the appropriate use of mediation, arbitration and other dispute resolution processes in every sector of society, including the business sector. As part of this effort, MACRO has formed a Business Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Initiative to promote ADR throughout Maryland's business community.

The Maryland Business ADR Initiative urges Maryland businesses to adopt the Business ADR Pledge. This Pledge obliges subscribing companies to seriously explore negotiation, mediation, arbitration or other ADR processes in conflicts arising with other Pledge signatories before pursuing full-scale litigation. For the full list of business and law firm subscribers, see MACRO's website at www.courts.state.md.us/macro. The Maryland Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office supports this program and is interested in highlighting Maryland signatory businesses and law firms as state leaders in managing business conflicts.

NEW SIGNERS: Sign this page and fax it to the Maryland Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office at 410-841-2261.

NAME OF PERSON TO DIRECT FUTURE CORRESPONDENCE _____

COMPANY _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

FAX _____

EMAIL _____

**PARTICIPATING
SUBSIDIARIES:** _____

The Pledge

We recognize that for many disputes there is a less expensive, more effective method of resolution than the traditional lawsuit. Alternative dispute resolution (ADR) procedures often spare businesses the high costs of litigation, preserve business relationships and result in solutions not available in court. In recognition of the foregoing, we subscribe to the following statements of principle on behalf of our company (and any domestic subsidiaries listed above).

In the event of a business dispute between our company and another company which has made or will then make a similar statement, we are prepared to explore with that other party resolution of the dispute through negotiation or ADR techniques before pursuing full-scale litigation. If either party believes that that dispute is not suitable for ADR techniques, or if such techniques do not produce results satisfactory to the disputants, either party may proceed with litigation.*

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER _____

(signature)

(please print or type)

CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER _____

(signature)

(please print or type)

*This Pledge is the same as the CPR Institute's Corporate ADR Pledge. CPR is a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing the use of ADR in business. Nationally, over 4,000 companies have committed to the CPR Institute's Corporate Pledge Program. To see the full list of CPR signatories see its website at www.cpradr.org. Maryland businesses that have already taken CPR's Pledge are simply reaffirming that pledge and are not adopting any additional obligations. Signatories that have not taken CPR's Pledge may be listed with CPR simply by checking the box below.

Please list my business with CPR ☐. My business is already listed with CPR ☐.